

NEW SOUTH WALES.

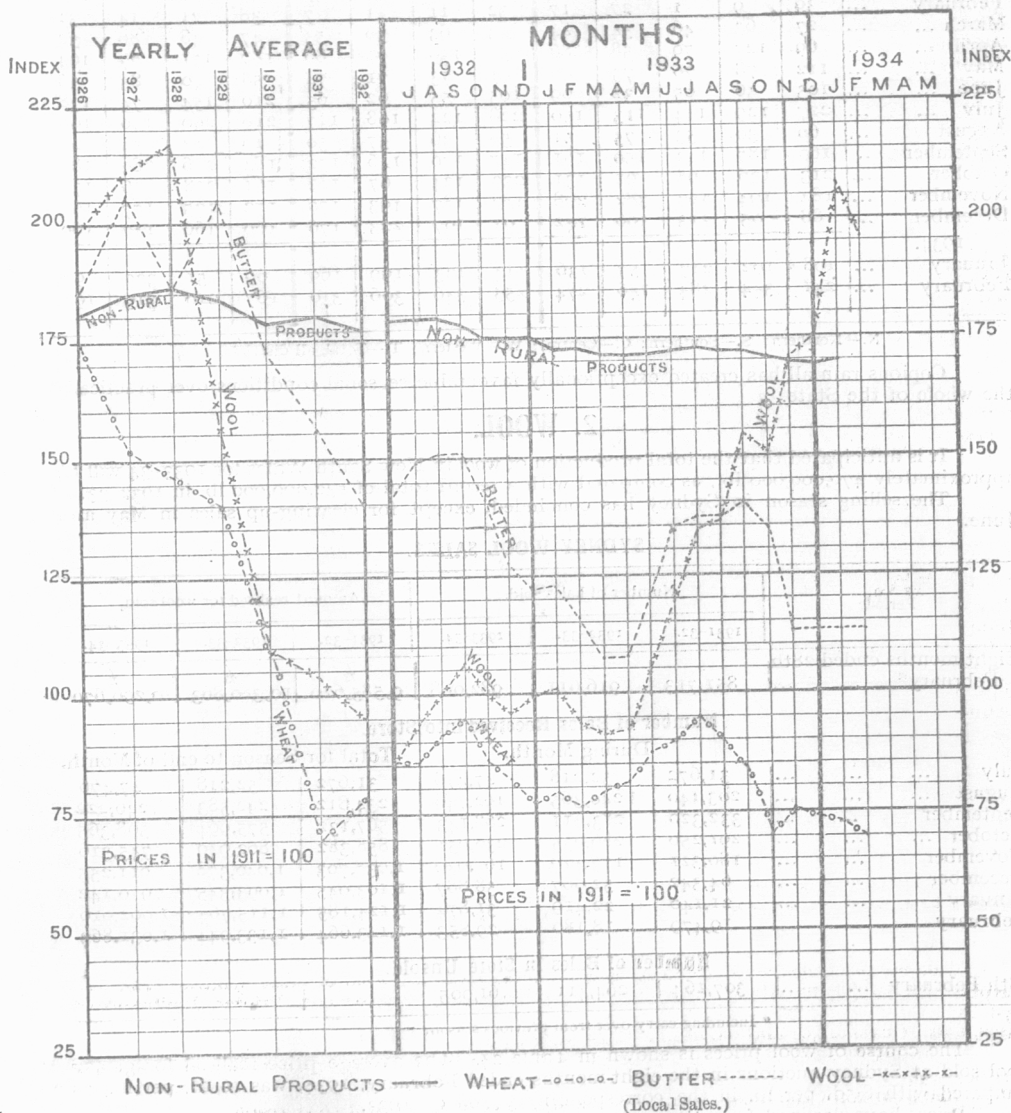
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 35. MARCH 23, 1934.

Issued by T. Waites, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 24 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

*28235—A

[Price, 3d.]

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.
(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1933.													
January ...	165	100	136	58	126	172	106	153	143	140	122	236	148
February ...	39	9	1	27	17	32	11	1	7	38	21	14	31
March ...	27	63	46	34	44	43	63	50	53	47	48	86	52
April ...	69	123	79	58	86	50	130	75	86	187	151	77	164
May ...	112	78	76	73	86	91	73	71	74	58	40	83	56
June ...	103	56	65	32	69	105	55	62	65	210	154	74	178
July ...	227	129	114	113	150	228	122	108	127	216	200	100	197
August ...	60	30	53	75	51	50	36	57	50	16	12	54	20
September ...	160	187	142	150	161	147	170	146	152	184	216	89	180
October ...	213	136	68	91	131	232	124	67	102	161	228	96	170
November ...	184	194	182	382	208	183	187	193	190	172	125	177	161
December ...	88	95	213	196	142	91	107	223	176	160	166	147	160
1934.													
January ...	108	102	217	57	136	114	123	199	169	69	51	322	97
February ...	241	344	284	146	274	255	346	306	310	167	210	319	198

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

Copious rainfall has created exceptionally favourable seasonal conditions over practically the whole of the State.

2. WOOL.

It is anticipated that the total production of wool in New South Wales for 1933-34 will be approximately 470,000,000 lb., as compared with a record total of 532,090,000 lb. in 1932-33.

The selling season in Sydney has concluded, except for clearing-up sales in May and June.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	Number of bales sold.			Amount realised for wool sold.		
	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
Eight months ended 28th February* ...	851,713	916,611	982,068	9,585,626	10,380,863	20,290,670
Number of Bales Received into Store.						
During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.			
July ...	31,672	52,218	47,476	31,672	52,218	47,476
August ...	203,140	240,365	192,746	234,812	292,583	240,222
September ...	332,320	283,411	268,143	567,132	575,994	508,365
October ...	291,250	286,955	236,951	858,382	862,949	745,316
November ...	180,321	177,429	165,939	1,038,703	1,040,378	911,255
December ...	64,342	52,967	58,887	1,103,045	1,093,345	970,142
January ...	21,140	22,419	31,874	1,124,185	1,115,764	1,002,016
February ...	19,479	18,180	29,853	1,143,664	1,133,944	1,031,869
Number of Bales in Store Unsold.						
28th February ...	307,164	264,411	61,005	...	...	...

* Including carry over from previous season.

The course of wool prices is shown in Table 24. The average price realised for greasy wool sold at Sydney auctions in the eight months ended February, 1934, was 16·1d. per lb., as compared with 8·5d. per lb. in the corresponding period of 1933.

Prices have declined from the peak reached in January, but are still 87 per cent. above the average of the past three seasons.

3. WHEAT.

Final returns of the crop harvested in the State in 1932-33 show a production of 79,020,000 bushels. The estimated area sown with wheat for grain and hay in New South Wales in the season 1933-34 was 4,838,000 acres. On 10th March, 1934, the quantity of wheat grain stored in silos and on railway premises was 32,420,000 bushels. Of this quantity 9,126,000 bushels were on sites in the Metropolitan Area.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT).

Month.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.		
December	3,477,737	5,895,225	925,068	22,404	25,331	21,632
January	5,344,553	6,033,908	560,222	10,212	15,049	20,674
February	5,307,083	7,525,590	1,912	20,291	31,373	18,258

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

	Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.		
December	4,537,605	7,101,449	1,955,154	737,355	1,039,656	258,707
January	5,830,820	6,750,537	1,544,700	986,683	981,122	196,893
February	6,273,300	9,019,564	871,359	1,013,169	1,258,224	103,923
Total (three months)	16,641,725	22,871,550	4,371,213	2,737,207	3,279,002	559,523

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 24. Comparatively small sales have been effected to date on account of the weakness of the market and small volume of inquiries. Continued lag in exports is anticipated in the immediate future.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in 1932-33 was a record, which appears certain to be exceeded in the current season. Production in New South Wales in January, 1934, was again the highest recorded for any month, following on record totals in November and December, 1933.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1932.	1933.	Quantity.		Value. £	
			1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
Year ended 31st December	122,106	129,575	42,553	45,078	2,015,587	1,822,799
July	6,013	5,929	786	604	39,248	26,035
August	6,494	6,306	1,037	1,155	53,246	45,465
September	7,737	8,102	1,463	1,357	75,544	69,268
October	12,394	13,046	3,700	3,610	195,195	177,338
November	13,706	15,607	6,804	8,186	308,524	322,754
December	14,301	17,606	6,669	8,139	272,102	312,415
Total, July-December..	60,646	66,596	20,459	23,050	943,859	953,275
	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
January	12,271	18,293	5,343	9,471	228,155	362,983
February	13,463	.....	6,192	8,329	249,443	317,640

The course of butter prices is shown in Table 24. After a collapse extending from September, 1932, to April, 1933, the London butter market revived temporarily, but collapsed again in October, and weakened until December, 1933. Prices have since fluctuated at a very low level. Export sales parity (Sydney) on 15th March, 1934, was 74s. per cwt, compared with 82s. per cwt. a year previously.

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal raised in 1933 is estimated by the Department of Mines to be 7,065,000 tons compared with 6,784,000 tons in 1932 and 6,432,000 tons in 1931.

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales.†	
	1928.	1932.	1933.	1932.	1933.
September ...	tons. 428,865	tons. 414,916	tons* 380,503	tons. 192,443	tons. 174,425
October ...	498,005	370,451	398,280	216,454	214,252
November ...	575,354	433,072	468,301	240,935	255,351
December ...	450,722	362,813	391,816	192,175	237,834
Year ended 31st December ...	6,198,971	4,609,416	4,902,779	2,368,092	2,599,950
January ...	1928.	1933.	1934.	1933.	1934.
February ...	546,533	360,500	452,715	204,914	215,000*
	502,801	387,499	430,000*	217,050	254,000*

* Approximate.

† Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways. † Cargo and bunker, Oversea and interstate.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
January ...	1,982	1,822	1,996	2,199	135	137	152	163*	542	497	545	562*
February ...	1,993	2,108	2,098	...	140	141	156	...	535	519	559	...
March ...	1,977	2,273	2,297	...	142	144	155	...	539	535	549	...
April ...	1,867	2,019	1,862	...	140	144	156	...	531	529	529	...
May ...	1,929	1,989	2,153	...	137	142	157	...	526	523	539	...
June ...	1,879	1,823	1,964	...	137	139	155	...	506	501	536	...
July ...	1,986	1,887	1,987	...	135	142	160	...	516	520	552	...
August ...	1,845	2,058	2,176	...	136	150	162	...	514	554	563	...
September ...	1,889	2,116	2,143	...	140	155	167	...	519	559	593	...
October ...	1,914	2,042	2,198	...	142	156	171	...	539	556	605	...
November ...	2,050	2,326	2,470	...	142	156	174	...	528	560	605	...
December ...	2,265	2,375	2,414	...	142	155	173	...	527	587	621	...
Average (January -December) ...	1,965	2,070	2,146	...	139	147	162	...	527	537	566	...

* Decrease due to a dispute in the Textile Industry.

NOTE—Particulars for 1930 were shown in previous issues. The monthly averages for the year were :—Sales, £2,317,000; Employees, 16,000; and Remuneration, £64,700.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of Permits to Erect New Buildings and Additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded :—

Year.	Month of February.				Year.	December Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.			Country Municipalities.	Total, New South Wales.*		
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.			New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.		
			No.	Value.				No.	Value.
1932 ...	£ 71,263	£ 8,340	51	£ 36,264	1931 ...	169	£ 81,925	£ 340,093	
1933 ...	140,285	21,146	76	78,417	1932 ...	330	203,033	936,440	
1934 ...	400,971	109,353	210	245,532	1933 ...	424	210,713	1,080,589	

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area.

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. All other Shires are excluded, as returns are not supplied.

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings or additions show in advance the trend in the building industry. More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 22 to 25 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for December Quarter, 1933.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.*

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

Year.	Australian Currency Values.				British Currency Values.			
	Month of February.		Eight Months ended 28th February.		Month of February.		Eight Months ended 28th February.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Thousand £ Australian.				Thousand £ Sterling.			
1932	1,693	3,779	15,000	22,789	1,355	3,011	11,646	17,779
1933	2,013	3,942	19,716	23,393	1,607	3,147	15,741	18,604
1934	2,429	3,888	19,785	31,694	1,940	3,104	15,796	25,305

* Excluding bullion and specie.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in *English currency*. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, less bonuses on butter, &c., and are recorded in *Australian currency*. The respective equivalent values in Australian and British currencies shown above are *estimated*.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Recorded Sales (New South Wales) under Sales Tax Act.

Month.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.	Taxable Goods.	Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.
	Million £.		Million £.		Million £.		Million £.	
January	4.20	9.33	4.53	9.89	4.95	9.52	4.26	9.87
February	4.56	9.71	4.76	9.52	4.49	9.98		
March	4.82	9.64	5.05	9.55	4.97	10.92		
April	5.27	11.37	5.39	10.17	5.00	10.67		
May	5.16	9.81	5.93	10.17	5.35	11.37		
June	5.64	10.71	4.67	9.61	4.76	10.63		
July	4.63	9.65	4.66	10.09	4.55	10.33		
August	4.68	9.10	5.01	10.22	5.08	11.23		
September	4.81	10.45	5.42	11.10	5.79	11.51		
October	4.84	10.47	5.17	11.13	5.53	11.30		
November	4.80	10.51	5.25	11.05	5.16	11.42		
December	4.91	11.47	5.36	11.76	5.70	11.81		

A considerable number of commodities was exempt from tax as from 1st September, 1932, with further exemptions as from 26th October, 1933. The number of wholesalers dealing only in exempt goods and not required to supply returns, therefore tends to increase.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from 23 city stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for months shown below compared with corresponding months of previous year :—

Month.	Number of Business Days in Month.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
1933.			Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—).					
July ...	26†	26†	(—) 6.6†	(—) 1.2	(—) 5.0	(+) 1.6	(—) 2.7	(—) 2.2
August ...	27	27	(+) 1.6	(—) 1.1	(—) 7.7	(+) 2.3	(—) 3.1	(—) 5.1
September ...	26	26	(+) 0.9	(—) 4.0	(—) 3.6	(+) 3.0	(—) 1.8	(—) 5.4
October ...	25	25	(+) 6.4	(—) 4.9	(+) 3.7	(+) 2.5	(+) 2.9	(—) 2.8
November ...	26	26	(+) 2.5	(—) 4.5	(+) 3.4	(+) 1.9	(+) 3.2	(+) 1.1
December ...	25	24	(+) 1.8	(—) 6.1	(—) 2.1	(+) 2.5	(+) 3.3	(+) 1.4
*Year 1933	303	303	(—) 0.1	(—) 2.3	(—) 2.8	(+) 4.4	...	...
1934.								
January ...	24	25	(+) 5.6	(—) 5.8	(+) 6.4	(+) 2.9	(+) 3.0	(+) 2.3

* Comparison with the calendar year 1932.

† July, 1932, included five Fridays.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were :—

	Month of January.			Seven Months ended 31st January.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1932 ...	1,358,400	1,032,809	325,591	9,037,936	7,185,816	1,852,120
1933 ...	1,519,558	979,140	540,418	9,434,641	6,789,151	2,645,490
1934 ...	1,349,524	854,580	494,944	9,000,198	6,230,982	2,769,216

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1932-33 was £6,352,581, exclusive of £1,191,937 exchange.

	Month of January.		Seven Months ended 31st January.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1932 ...	147,722	10,331	902,551	71,988
1933 ...	197,066	11,303	980,654	78,471
1934 ...	135,197	12,613	906,579	80,749

*Goods (including wayleave) and live stock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

During 1932-33 certain rail freights and workmen's weekly fares were reduced and further substantial reductions in all passenger fares and in certain freight rates were made in 1933-34.

12. TRAMWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAMWAYS.

	Sydney and Suburbs.			Newcastle and Suburbs.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried. ††	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried.
Year ended 30th June,	£	£		£	£	
1933 ...	3,058,696	442,543	268,391,755§	208,151	43,433	18,994,387
1933.						
January ...	273,753	58,268	22,623,515	18,396	5,167	1,627,242
February ...	242,430	34,489	21,444,587	16,522	4,021	1,486,857
March ...	268,229	55,333	23,677,344	18,212	5,508	1,637,065
April ...	254,713	49,431	22,633,397	16,495	2,350	1,520,184
May ...	250,563	35,014	22,226,243	17,519	4,223	1,589,914
June ...	234,987	32,633	21,155,880	16,444	1,703	1,540,863
July ...	235,010	33,088	21,070,407	17,138	3,806	1,574,258
August ...	246,069	49,012	21,086,881	16,362	3,540	1,487,016
September ...	239,909	44,478	21,163,769	16,765	4,775	1,537,881
October ...	250,187	53,808	22,474,578	17,519	4,474	1,603,717
November ...	244,061	47,751	21,824,711	17,583	5,321	1,626,604
December ...	267,879	70,178	24,060,682	19,426	6,731	1,768,604
1934.						
January ...	281,805	84,641	23,467,180	19,235	6,190	1,675,091
February ...	243,812	†	21,263,978	17,134	†	1,557,171

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses. The amount of interest chargeable against the tramways in 1932-33 was £383,500, exclusive of £69,000 exchange. †† Excludes passengers carried on Sydney Harbour Bridge Section only. † Not available. § Revised.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.), AS AT VARIOUS DATES.†

Class.	30th June—				31st October, 1933.	31st December, 1933.	31st January, 1934.	28th February, 1934.
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.				
Cars	169,495	154,096	143,970	147,647	149,329	152,369	153,018	153,357
Lorries and Vans ...	45,309	41,788	38,618	42,335	44,092	45,613	45,951	46,155
Cycles	29,410	25,453	22,741	22,397	22,192	22,491	22,450	22,432
Buses	640	676	362	415	436	450	458	450
Cabs	1,340	1,078	1,070	1,066	1,050	1,052	1,055	1,051

† Government vehicles (except omnibuses) are excluded.

Average Weekly Number of New Cars Registered.*

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1930 ...	394	361	285	200	199	196	181	183	135	141	141	132
1931 ...	78	83	69	88	59	55	47	45	45	55	60	53
1932 ...	55	61	63	58	55	53	61	71	67	93	96	106
1933 ...	74	81	89	96	88	94	95	112	132	138	146	198
1934 ...	142	144										

* Represents average for four weeks ending on first Tuesday in succeeding month until October, 1932; subsequent periods end on first Friday in ensuing month.

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

Date.	Amount of Deposits.	Date.	Amount of Deposits.	
			1933.	1934.
	£		£	£
1929—June 30	85,727,514†	January 31	71,262,764*	73,824,490*
1930—March 31	80,723,561	February 28	71,334,540*	
June 30	82,465,430†	March 31	71,253,452	
September 30	78,552,912	April 30	70,990,580*	
December 31	73,406,775	May 31	70,685,762*	
1931—March 31	70,773,167	June 30	72,307,685†	
June 30	69,810,769†	July 31	72,308,525†	
September 30	71,448,529	August 31	72,309,000*	
December 31	72,503,441	September 30	72,357,694	
1932—March 31	70,766,850	October 31	72,453,208*	
June 30	71,647,869†	November 30	72,403,571*	
September 30	70,906,662	December 31	72,503,848	
December 31	70,298,583			

* Approximate.

† Includes accrued interest.

15. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

TOTAL (including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Advances, &c., and Government Securities.	Excess of Advances over Deposits, &c.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1931	118,255	131,150	12,895
1932	111,637	138,434	26,797
1933	116,164	142,927	26,763

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government Deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances, &c.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.	Ratio of Advances to Deposits
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.			
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	per cent.
1931	59,591	36,105	95,696	95,277	(—) 419	99·6
1932	58,322	34,618	92,940	93,284	344	100·4
1933	58,186	38,519	96,705	94,263	(—) 2,442	9·5

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	Amount—Million £						Index Numbers					
January ...	86·2	78·2	67·4	46·7	49·2	59·5	107	102	82	63	68	78
February ...	88·1	75·5	63·8	47·3	47·7	59·3	107	98	82	62	66	77
March ...	89·8	83·7	69·9	42·7	53·3	...	106	95	81	*	63	...
April ...	89·7	68·6	62·4	43·5	44·4	...	104	94	82	*	63	...
May ...	89·7	76·7	54·0	46·1	58·9	...	104	93	77	*	67	...
June ...	84·8	71·7	57·1	51·8	52·4	...	104	90	75	66	68	...
July ...	88·8	73·7	48·9	46·8	49·7	...	106	89	66	62	68	...
August ...	84·1	58·4	45·5	46·0	48·5	...	108	85	65	64	66	...
September ...	78·7	61·7	†54·6	51·3	55·6	...	107	82	64	65	69	...
October ...	89·1	71·5	56·0	53·5	55·4	...	106	80	65	66	70	...
November ...	85·5	65·8	50·6	55·3	64·0	...	103	81	66	68	74	...
December ...	88·9	86·8	52·9	57·7	62·4	...	104	82	64	69	74	...
Year ...	1,043·3	872·4	†683·1	588·7	641·4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* State Government banking transactions suspended. Index not ascertainable.
Government transactions.

† Exclusive of certain abnormal

Following on a special research, the index has been revised throughout in order to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. The index represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

			Month of February.		Two months ended 28th February.	
			Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.*	Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.*
			£	£	£	£
1932	...	...	886,294	722,204	1,429,241	1,311,793
1933	...	...	1,013,436	792,235	2,257,683	1,518,033
1934	...	...	1,678,973	1,460,994	3,076,731	2,781,486

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

The above comparison is affected by a decline in property values. Figures for individual months are shown in Table 50 of the Statistical Bulletin of New South Wales for December Quarter, 1933.

NOTE.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

			Month of February.			Two months ended 28th February.		
			Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
1932	...	...	701,963	235,759	137,649	1,381,978	351,207	252,739
1933	...	...	620,124	379,805	84,726	1,638,960	471,225	187,369
1934	...	...	332,915	310,157	172,928	907,916	511,252	283,166

See note under Table 18.

The numbers involved in liens and mortgages were as follow :—

Two months ended 28th February.			Number of Crop Liens.	Number of Sheep subject to Liens on Wool.*	Number of Livestock under Mortgage.		
					Sheep.*	Cattle.	Horses.
1932	...	...	2,735	1,596,597	1,717,014	17,755	2,941
1933	...	...	2,819	1,647,465	1,066,182	22,515	1,877
1934	...	...	1,760	1,830,811	1,552,967	26,152	2,151

* In many cases sheep are included under both headings.

20. BANKRUPTCIES.

Sequestrations and Deeds of Arrangement, New South Wales.

Year.			Month of February.		Two months ended 28th February.	
			Number.	Liabilities.*	Number.	Liabilities.*
1932	...	...	81	£ 132,328	130	£ 326,626
1933	...	...	45	68,985	75	111,478
1934	...	...	55	51,019	87	101,872

* Gross liabilities before deducting assets.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21. UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

	February.	May.	August.	November.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1929 ...	9.7	10.0	12.4	13.8
1930 ...	16.3	21.0	23.3	26.3
1931 ...	29.2	30.7	31.6	31.5
1932 ...	31.8	33.2	33.0	31.9
1933 ...	30.2	29.6	28.8	27.0

The above figures are compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician from returns supplied by Trade Unions, and represent the proportion of unemployed members to total membership in unions reporting.

INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT.

Data under this heading are not yet available. The numbers of employees in 98 of the larger factories of the State were as follow :—

Middle of Month.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	No.	No.	No.
July ...	32,399	36,114	39,189
August ...	32,065	37,418	39,902
September ...	32,468	38,381	40,780
October ...	33,392	38,415	42,136
November ...	34,521	39,302	42,834
December ...	34,399	38,923	41,614
January ...	34,440	38,166	41,318*

* Reduction due to a dispute in the textile industry.

Changes in the volume of employment in retail trades are indicated in Table 10.

22. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and the group averages are the means of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. It represents the ratio of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values.

Par Value of Shares = 100.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
July, 1929...	178.8	172.9	129.9	158.8	231.6	169.4	168.8
July, 1930...	112.5	102.8	109.6	87.9	172.6	112.6	111.2
July, 1931...	77.3	65.9	90.8	79.3	119.0	79.5	83.5
Sept., 1931 §	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
July, 1932...	100.0	78.0	112.1	94.9	152.0	95.3	102.1
1933.							
January ...	114.4	90.2	131.9	106.2	163.3	107.0	115.4
March ...	115.2	91.6	132.8	100.4	164.9	108.3	116.3
June ...	129.1	99.3	138.3	119.6	176.6	119.3	127.2
September...	135.6	108.8	139.6	135.6	186.0	126.0	134.1
October ...	141.9	116.5	143.6	134.2	196.3	131.6	139.9
November...	139.8	117.0	140.6	138.4	196.6	130.9	138.5
December ...	139.3	120.3	143.3	145.6	199.3	132.4	139.5
1934.							
January ...	147.2	129.7	151.5	159.6	209.2	140.0	147.8
February ...	149.7	130.0	153.4	151.9	214.7	141.4	147.4

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies.

§ The lowest point of the index was reached in September, 1931.

23. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
January	1,000	1,031	1,013	956	929	979	996
February	1,000	1,044	981	974	949	972	999
March	1,000	1,018	1,011	971	952	976	
April	1,000	1,036	1,004	960	956	961	
May	1,000	1,055	1,000	944	951	969	
June	1,000	1,035	999	966	987	967	
July	1,000	1,052	987	960	967	961	
August	1,000	1,061	998	940	973	1,007	
September	1,000	1,085	979	936	969	986	
October	1,000	1,093	972	934	965	988	
November	1,000	1,093	961	946	972	1,030	
December	1,000	1,043	983	973	990	1,008	
Average (12 months)	1,000	1,054	991	955	963	984	

24. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural.†	100 Com- modities Average.
1911*	100	100	100	100	100
1929*	162	140	204	184	186
1930*	109	110	172	178	170
1931*	105	70	154	180	155
1932*	96	88	140	177	152
1933*	127	82	124	172	151
1932—June	86	86	141	178	152
September	107	95	151	177	153
October	100	86	141	175	152
November	96	83	128	175	150
December	99	77	123	175	149
1933—January	101	79	123	173	148
February	94	77	116	173	146
March	92	79	108	172	144
April	93	81	108	172	146
May	104	88	120	172	148
June	118	90	134	173	151
July	134	96	137	173	154
August	136	90	137	172	156
September	154	84	140	172	156
October	151	71	134	171	152
November	171	76	114	169	152
December	175	74	113	169	154
1934—January	208	73	113	168†	154†
February	196	70	113	168	155
At 17th March...	187	71	113	...	* ...

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Par = 100.

Average Rates of Exchange.†

Australia on London.	London on New York.	London on Paris.	Australia on New York.	Australia on Paris.
100	...	...	...	...
102	100	100	102	100
100	100	100	106	105
128	107	107	140	137
125	139	139	174	172
125	115	147	143	181
125	133	134	166	166
125	140	140	175	173
125	143	143	179	177
125	148	149	185	183
125	149	148	185	183
125	145	144	181	178
125	142	142	177	176
125	142	142	176	172
125	135	142	168	176
125	124	145	152	179
125	117	144	146	178
125	105	146	130	180
125	108	148	134	183
125	104	154	130	191
125	104	155	129	192
125	95	151	118	188
125	95	148	118	185
125	96	152	119	189
125	97	160	120	198
125	96	160	119	200

* Average for year.

† Approximate.

† Revised.

‡ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

The decrease in prices as between the average for 1929 and February, 1934, was, respectively (per cent. of 1929 average):—Wheat, 50; butter, 45; non-rural, 9; 100 commodities, average, 17. The average price of wool in February, 1934, was 21 per cent. above the average for 1929.

25. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

	1931.	1933.											1934.	
	Sept.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1924 = 100)	59.7	59.5	58.7	58.5	59.7	61.2	61.5	61.7	62.0	61.8	61.9	61.9	63.0	63.4
United States—Irrving Fisher (1926 = 100)	68.7	55.3	56.1	57.2	60.3	63.7	69.0	70.5	71.2	71.6	71.7	71.7	72.3	73.0*

Gold standard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931, and by U.S.A. 6th March, 1933.

* Two weeks.

26. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, English Currency).

Date.	Gold* (Fine).			Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Spelter.		Tin (Standard).		Copper (Standard).	
	per oz.			per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.	
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
Average, 1927-29 ...	4	4	11	2	1.75	22	18	26	4	240	1	64	19
September, 1931 ...	4	11	3	1	2.10	11	19	11	16	117	17	31	11
1933.													
April ...	6	0	8	1	6.44	10	19	15	1	158	0	29	12
July ...	6	4	0	1	6.34	13	10	17	15	216	15	37	19
August ...	6	5	9	1	5.88	12	6	16	19	215	5	36	2
September ...	6	11	4	1	6.27	12	1	16	18	216	19	35	3
October ...	6	11	7	1	6.22	11	19	16	9	223	10	33	13
November ...	6	8	9	1	6.43	11	13	15	4	226	16	30	12
December ...	6	6	3	1	6.67	11	10	14	18	227	14	31	7
1934.													
January ...	6	10	1	1	7.38	11	8	14	16	226	14	32	12
February ...	6	17	0	1	8.07	11	15	14	19	226	16	33	2
March (1st to 16th) ...	6	16	8	1	8.50	11	11	14	14	232	5	32	15

*The par price of gold is £4 4s. 11d. per oz. fine.

27. SUMMARY.

The following Table provides some indication of trends in 1933 and 1934 in respect of the principal activities for which it is possible to indicate general trends by monthly figures:—

Refer to Table No. ...	17	9	6	5	7	11	23	12
Month.	Index of Bank Clearings.	Value of Goods sold at Wholesale.	Value of Goods sold by certain Factories.	Quantity of Coal Hauled by Railways.	Value of City and Suburban Building Permits. (d).	Number of Passenger Journeys on Railways.	Index of Quantity of Gas and Electricity Consumed.	Tramway Revenue.
1933.		£ (b)	£ (b)	tons (a)	£ (a)	(c)		£ (a)
April ...	63	1,067	186	337	257	111	961	271
May ...	67	1,137	215	474	160	113	969	268
June ...	68	1,063	196	434	367	110	967	251
July ...	68	1,033	199	400	329	112	961	252
August ...	66	1,123	218	440	319	106	1,007	262
September ...	69	1,151	214	381	295	108	986	257
October ...	70	1,130	220	398	223	118	988	268
November ...	74	1,142	247	468	277	113	1,030	262
December ...	74	1,181	241	392	203	124	1,008	287
1934.								
January ...	78	987	220	453	289	126	996	301
February ...	77	...	...	430	401	...	999	261

(a) Thousands. (b) Ten thousands. (c) Hundred thousands. (d) New buildings and additions as recorded by Municipal Councils.

The general position in regard to primary industries might be gauged by reference to tables 1 to 4, and to the prices shown in the graph on page 1, and in table 24.

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted), payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

Acknowledgment is made of the ready help given by numerous private organisations and businesses, and by Government Departments in providing data contained in this summary.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics, 36 Young-street, Sydney.

23rd March, 1934.

Sydney: Alfred James Kent, L.S.O., Government Printer—1934.